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MINUTES

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Canaan Baptist Association,

HELD WITH-

SALEM BAPTIST GHURGH,

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA,

October 1st, 2d and 3d, 1884.

OFFICERS:

A. J. Waldrop Moderator
E. B. Waldrop Clerk

THE NEXT SESSION OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH THE RUHAMA BAPTIST CHURCH, COMMENCING ON FRIDAY BEFORE THE FOURTH SABBATH IN SEPTEMBER, 11 A. M., 1885.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.: ROBERTS & SON, PRINTERS AND BINDERS

Order of Business.

- 1. Enrollment of names of delegates.
- 2. Election of officers.
- 3. Appointment of standing committees on Finance, Documents and Nominations.
 - 4. Reading of letters from churches.
 - 5. Receiving of newly constituted churches.
 - 6. Receive correspondence.
 - 7. Return correspondence.
 - 8. Miscellaneous business.
 - 9. Report on Foreign Missions.
 - 10. Report on Home Missions.
 - 11. Miscellaneous business.
 - 12. Report on State Missions.
 - 13. Report on Sabbath Schools.
 - 14. Report on Temperance.
 - 15. Miscellaneous business.
 - id. Report on Finance.
 - 17. Report on Documents.
 - 18. Report on Nominations.
- 19. Appointment of committees for next session: Foreign, Home and State Missions, Sabbath Schools, Temperance and Church Improvements.
 - 20. Appointment of Board of Directors.
 - 21. Miscellaneous business.

MINUTES.

Wednesday,, Oct. 1, 1884.

At 11 o'clock a. m., the Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. E. B. Waldrop, from Ex. xiv: 15, and Zach, iv: 7; after which adjourned till 1 o'clock p. m.

- 1. At the hour of 1 p. m. the delegates composing the Fifty-first Annual Session of the Canaan Association assembled in the meeting house of the Salem Baptist Church, and were called to order by the Moderator, Rev. A. J. Waldrop.
 - 2. After reading and singing the beautiful hymn,

"Come thou fount of every blessing," etc.,

prayer was offered by the Moderator.

3. The delegates from the different churches were requested to report their names to the Clerk, and names were enrolled as follows:

Birmingham—D. I. Purser, J. H. Weatherly, G. T. Green, R. H. Sterrett and M. G. Carter.

Bethany—R. L. Pierson, D. Williams, J. I. Washington and C. W. McCleudon.

Canaan-J. M. Hucabce.

Cahaba—M. K. Vann, S. T. Vann, Harvy Sparks and D. H. Vann. Central—T. A. Melton, M. Branham, J. M. Presley, J. T. Franklin and J. M. Frazier.

Enon—T. A. Anderson, J. M. Doss, J. F. Rogers, T. P. Early and I. J. Rogers.

Hopewell-G. A. Chunn, I. W. Porman and I. J. Dean.

Pleasant Ridge—O. J. Waldrop.

Rock Creek-David Hamaker.

Ruhama—S. Henderson, A. J. Waldrop, E. B. Waldrop, J. B. Ellard, J. B. Tarrant and Erasmus Wood, Jr.

Salem—J. W. Johnson, W. J. Lee, J. L. Meggs, W. B. McCombs and T. J. Watson.

Sulphur Springs - J. M. Huey.

Springville—T. V. B. Moor, S. A. McClendon, J. T. Herring, H. B. Hitt and A. M. McClendon.

Williamsburg-F. R. McDonald and Walter McWilliams.

4. The letters from the churches were then brought forward and read by J. H. Weatherly and T. V. B. Moor.

- 5. On motion of Dr. S. Henderson, the officers of last session were re-elected by acclamation: A. J. Waldrop, Moderator; E. B. Waldrop, Clerk; T. V. B. Moor, Corresponding Secretary, and R. H. Sterrett, Treasurer.
- 6. An opportunity was then afforded other churches wishing to unite with this Association, thereupon New Prospect Church presented letter and delegates, asking for admission. On motion the church was received and delegates names enrolled as follows: F. C. Walls, J. D. Falks, W. L. Vann, J. M. Carlisle and R. K. Vann.
 - 7. The Moderator appointed the following committees: On Finance J. H. Weatherly, J. M. Presley and T. A. Anderson.
 - On Documents—T. V. B. Moor, O. J. Waldrop and M. T. Branham. On Nominations—M. K. Vann, J. H. Hagood and S. A. McClendon.
 - 8. Received correspondents from other Associations:

Cahaba Valley-R. W. Inzer, A. B. Roper and E. H. Inzer.

Mud Creek-S. B. Thompson.

Warrior River-Rev. Mr. Ellis.

Dr. S. Henderson, in the absence of any delegates from the Coosa River Association, requested the privilege of representing that body, which was granted.

9. Returned Correspondence:

Coosa River-A. J. Waldrop and J. H. Weatherly.

Cahaba Valley—J. M. Presley, S. T. Vann, M. T. Branham, A. J. Waldrop and T. V. B. Moor.

Sulphur Springs-W. J. Lee and J. M. Huey.

Shelby - V. A. Wilson, O. J. Waldrop and J. B. Glenn.

North River-W. J. Lee, I. W. Dorm and G. A. Chunn.

Tuscaloosa—G. T. Green and N. F. Miles.

Mud Creek-J. B. Hucabee, O. J. Waldrop and Josephus Vines.

Warrior River - F. R. McDonald, J. G. Meggs, Williamson Franklin and J. D. Falks.

Baptist State Convention—Dr. S. Henderson, A. J. Waldrop, R. W. Beck, T. V. B. Moor, D. I. Purser, G. A. Chunn, J. M. Huey, E. B. Waldrop and R. K. Vann.

- 10. Appointed the Pastor and Deacons of Salem Church, W. L. C. Vann and J. B. Ellard from the body. Committee on Devotions.
- 11. On motion of Dr. S. Henderson, the hours of meeting and adjournment were fixed as follows: Meet at 9 o'clock a. m., adjourn at 11 a. m., for preaching; meet at 1:30 p. m., and adjourn at 4 p. m.

12. On motion, the Moderator filled vacancies in standing committees:

Foreign Missions—R. W. Beck, Wm. Moor and R. K. Vann. State Missions—M. T. Branham, T. A. Melton and J. M. Presley. Sabbath Schools—T. V. B. Moor, J. H. Hagood and O. J. Waldrop. Temperance—J. H. Weatherly.

13. On motion of R. W. Beck, a committee of three was appointed to draft suitable resolutions—commemorative of the death of Brother J. M. Franklin.—The Moderator appointed R. W. Beck, M. K. Vann and S. T. Vann.

14. On motion, adjourned. Prayer by G. A. Chunn.

Thursday, Oct. 2, 9 o'clock a. m.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, 1. The report on Foreign Missions was read, and discussed by R. W. Beck, G. T. Green, S. Henderson and A. J. Waldrop.—The report was then adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

To the Canaan Association: -

Your committee on Foreign Missions beg to offer the following: The last annual report of the Foreign Board is most encouraging. A goodly number of new missionaries have just gone forth into foreign fields to do battle in the Master's cause, calling for increased prayers and contributions on our part. More than ever before we are urged to send the gospel to the dying millions who are without God and without hope in the world, and right nobly are our Southern Baptists responding to this call. But Alabama Baptists are not doing their duty in this direction as they should. The year past the Foreign Board received \$80,465,87, an increase of \$23,516.16 over last year's receipts. Alabama's contributions for this work amount to \$3,310.88, and legacies \$4,988.75. Dr. Tupper, our Corresponding Secretary of the Foreign Board, in his annual report says: . In view of the increased liberality of our churches, a growing Missionary spirit in students for the ministry, the general prosperity and expansion of our missions, and the opening of new fields all over the world, the friends of foreign missions should 'thank God and take courage.'" We have now ninety-five missionaries, native and foreign, laboring in Mexico. Brazil, Italy, Africa and China. Their stations and out stations number forty-two; the increase of membership during the past year has been 175; pupils in the day and Sunday schools number 684; church members, 1,141, and their contributions amount to \$1,077. The work is increasing and widening in every field occupied by our missionaries. Our Foreign

Board has determined to push the work forward, confidently relying on us for support. Brethren, this is the Master's call, "Go preach the gospel to every creature," accompanied by the divine promise, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Will we respond? "Aequit ye yourselves like men." It is proposed that Alabama Baptists raise this year for foreign missions \$5,000. Of this amount, Canaan Association is asked to give \$111.05. This can be done if we will only go at in the right way. We earnestly recommend that churches take up regnlarly, quarterly collections and subscriptions for pastors' salary, contingent expenses, missions and ministerial education. That each church have a monthly prayer meeting for missions, and that pastors preach to their churches at least twice a year on the subject of missions. That as far as possible the Foreign Mission Journal be put in every Baptist famly in the bounds of this Association. Any church can get ten copies for \$2.50. Brethren, the fields are already white unto the harvest, and Lord commands his people to move forward and occupy till he comes. Let the Canaan Association not be found wanting when the Master calls for our increase. Respectfully submitted.

R. W. Beck, Chairman.

2. The hour of 11 a.m. having arrived, adjourned to hear the missionary sermon, which was preached by Dr. S. Henderson, to a large and appreciative audience, from Phillippians iv: 8.

EVENING SESSION, 1:30 o'clock.

The house was called to order by the Moderator; prayer was offered by S. B. Thompson.

- 1. The committee on Devotions reported preaching to-night at 7 o'clock, by R. W. Inzer; to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m., by W. H. Smith.
- 2. A collection was taken up by the Moderator for our aged brother, H. G. Smith, to the amount of \$16 in cash.
- 2. The report on the State Missions was read, and discussed by R. H. Sterrett, S. Henderson and A. J. Waldrop. Pending the adoption of the report, pledges were made for ministerial education by the churches as follows: Bethany, \$5; Cahaba, \$10; Canaan, \$2.50; Central, \$15; Enon. \$10; Hopewell, \$2.50; Pleasant Ridge, \$10; Rock Creek, \$2.50; Ruhama, \$20; Salem, \$5; Sulphur Spring,

\$5; Springville, 810; Williamsburg, \$2.50, and Birmingham \$50.

4. The following resolutions were offered by R. W., Beek, as an amendment to the report, which were accepted:

Whereas, The communities of Coketon, Warrior, New Castle, Oxmoor and other places are rapidly growing up, and are destined to be business centers of no small consequence, and

WHEREAS. The Baptist cause is weak and not self-sustaining at these points, be it

Resolved—That we now determine to occupy these important fields, and attempt to put a strong and efficient missionary at work in this field

And that, looking to this end, we appoint the following Board of Directors, who shall have control and direction of this work, and that they be requested to move forward in this work. That the work of this board shall be to visit the churches of this Association and get them to support the same.

The following named brethren were appointed as such board: D. I. Purser, W. H. Wood, R. J. Waldrop, N. F. Miles, G. T. Green, A. J. Waldrop, M. K. Vann, D. H. Vann, R. K. Vann, T. V. B. Moor, Thomas Herring, J. M. Presley and R. W. Beck.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Committee on State Missions submit the following: That an increasing success crowns the efforts of this board. During the conventional year just closed, seventy men have been in the employ of the board for a whole or a part of the time. The labors of these brethren have been extended into fifty-six counties. The results of these labors, so far as they can be expressed, are as follows: Traveled 53,513 miles, delivered 4,913 sermons and addresses, constituted twenty-one churches, baptised 919, received by letter 438, restored 46, total added 1403; organized 61 Sabbath Schools, ladies' mission societies organized, 8; pages of tracts distributed. 79,652; religious visits, 6,165; prayer meetings conducted, 624, meeting houses finished, 4; partially completed, 5. These statistics show an advance in the work of this board, year by year, and your committee urge upon this Association to come up to the help of this board. The subject of ministerial education is receiving the earnest support of our State Convention, and we should not fail to do our part in the matter.

M. T. Branham, Chairman.

5. Committee on Finance made their report:

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6. G. T. Green, R. H. Sterrett and J. H. Weatherly were appointed to pro-rate the amount among the churches asked of this Association by the State Mission Board: Birmingham, \$150; Bethany, \$30; Canaan, \$26; Cahaba, \$80; Central, \$20; Enon, \$20; Hopewell, \$25; Pleasant

Report on Finance.

Ridge, 840; Rock Creek, 830; Ruhama, 875; Salem, \$45; Sulphur Springs, 815; Williamsburg, \$10; Springville, 845, and New Prospect, 825.

7. Adjourned, Prayer by I. W. Dorman.

FRIDAY, Oct. 3, 9 o'clock a. m.

The house was called to order by the Moderator. The prayer was led by Brother J. G. Thurman.

 Report Home Missions was read, and discussed by E. B. Waldrop, G. T. Green and R. W. Inzer, after which the report was adopted;

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The committee on Home Missions submit the following report: We are gratified to report that there is a grand and growing interest manifested in the work of Home Missions in our denomination. This department of Christian work is one that appeals to us more powerfully, if possible, than any other work, inasmuch as it appeals to us to assist in building up the waste places in our own State and of our sister States. When we look out upon the whitening fields all ready for the sickle, and contemplate what has been done, and what still remains to be done, we ought to thank God and take courage for what has already been accomplished; pray more, and do more, and give more for this cause than we ever have done before. Our sceretary, Dr. Tichenor, in his recent annual report, states that the board received during the conventional year over \$60,000. And of this amount Alabama gave in contributions \$2,036.26, and in legacies \$4,988.75. The board had in its employ during the year 141 missionaries, supplied 338 churches and stations, and baptised nearly 3,000 persons. The work done has been chiefly in Florida, Louisaua, Arkansas, Texas and among the Indians in the Indian Territory. Respectfully submitted.

2. The report on Sabbath Schools was made, and discussed by Brethren Moor, Sterrett, Green and Purser, after which the report was adopted:

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, beg leave to report: That there are in connection with the churches of this Association, twelve Sabbath schools, with fifty-eight teachers and 686 scholars, whose supplies cost \$178.65. Yet, many churches have no Sunday schools. When we consider that the object of the Sunday school work is to promote the study of the Scriptures, and when we consider that the neglect of the Scriptures is the eause of leanness and barrenness on the part of Christians, it is painful to see the indifference of a large number of our members. There is no better food for the mind and the soul than is drawn from the Word of God. And those who neglect the scriptures may expect to be weak in faith, in-

efficient in duty, and will become irregular and sinful in their conduct. The systematic study of the Scriptures is essential to growth in grace. Sinners who study the Scriptures diligently are more readily brought into the fold of Christ. And young persons who have been taught the Scriptures from their youth up, are apt to be the best church members and the best Christians. What should be done to increase the interest and efficiency of the Sunday school work? is a question which should engage the carnest and prayerful attention of this body. Respectfully submitted.

T. V. B. Moor, Chairman.

3. Adjourned to hear sermon from Brother W. H. Smith. At the close of the sermon a cash collection of \$17.50 was taken up for ministerial education.

Evening Session, 1:30 p.m.

The house was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer was offered by G. T. Green.

1. Heard memorial resolutions on the death of Brother J. M. Franklin. The report was adopted:

MEMORIAL OF J. M. FRANKLIN.

Since the last meeting of our Association one of our best and most useful brethren has gone to his reward, John M. Franklin.

John M. Franklin was born in Jefferson county, Ala., and spent his useful life in the community which gave him birth. He united with the Baptist Church in early life, and that life grew brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. He had a sound mind and judgment, and a pure heart and unselfish spirit. It was the delight of his church to bear with confidence upon his guidance. His life was devoted to every good work and faithful to every movement intended to develop and expand the Master's Kingdom in the earth. The burden of his heart was the cause of that Saviour whom he loved and served so well.

In the death of Brother Franklin this body has lost one of its most efficient members, his church one of its main supports, and the community a wise, safe and useful citizen. But what has been our loss has been his gain.

We gladly take this means of commending the life and services of this Christian man to the rising young men of our country as an example to follow in shaping their lives for usefulness and influence here, and peace and happiness in the bright beyond. Long since he has received the welcome plaudit: "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord," and the spirit of John M. Franklin is now basking in the sunlight of God's effulgent glory, singing the song of Moses and the Lamb, in the presence of that Savior who was the joy and comfort of his life here, and the peace and happiness of the life he has now entered upon. But, although the outward life of Brother Franklin was devoted to every good word and work, yet it was to those who came

nearest to him that his character was unfolded as most affectionate, tender and true, with sympathies of the broadest and deepest kind. We deeply lament him as a prince and leader among us, whose like we shall rarely see.

2. The report on Temperance was read, and on motion for adoption the following resolution was offered as an amendment to the report, which was accepted:

Recognizing the obligation resting upon us as Christians to alleviate as far as lies in our power, the sufferings of common humanity, and raise the standard of Christ triumphant over the evils of the world, therefore he it

Resolved, By this Association, that we will give our hearty support to any movement looking toward constitutional prohibition, and will labor ardnowly for the success of such movement.

The report was then adopted as amended: REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance is a virtue plainly and strongly taught in the Holy Scriptures. The vice of intemperance is so beastly and ruinous in its nature that Christian churches have generally united their influences to overthrow it. Various temperance organizations have been formed to effect this. This conflict has been waged from times immemorial, and still the demon goes on destroying its thousands annually. The friends of temperance, virtue and humanity are still puzzled over the great question. It appears to us that the great radical cause of the evil has never been reached. To prevent intemperance we must zealously teach and practice temperance. Temperance simply means moderation, and intemperance, immoderation. One may be temperate in the use of any good thing, or use it immoderately, and be intemperate. The evil of intemperance rises out of the very perverse nature of its victim. "Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby," saith the Scriptures, "is not wise." There is the secret of the whole matter-every man who falls a victim to wine or strong drink betrays his own innate weakness, he is deceived in himself. Absolutely no man is safe, and there is no safety, only in keeping one's self-entirely out of the way of any kind of liquor. But often the victim has been ensuared by some other practice or influence entirely unlike it. The unbridled indulgence in the appetite of eating sometimes leads to it. Idly lounging about where liquor is kept, the practice of gaming, or the too frequent looking at the gross effects of drinking leads to it. All this goes back to another very deceptive and dangerous evil--it is the loose government of thoughtless and often ignorant parents, parents who fail to cultivate parental affection and obedience, forgetting or not knowing that in the family are laid, right early, the first principles which are to be either the ruin or the making of the child. The proper motives must be given, the true sentiments instilled, the sound principles laid, and the correct habits formed, all of which are to govern and support the child's character through life. Another dangerous influence not always thought of has ruined its thousands, it is false notions as to what it takes to make a man. Boys imagine that it is very manly to smoke a cigar, swear fluently, and soon think it manly to get drunk. Akin to this is the idea that it is impolite to refuse a cigar, a drink of wine, beer or liquor from a friend. Stability of character is sound integrity, the ability to say a decided no to every temptation is what every man and woman needs. Again, no parent should for one moment or one time do or say before his child any thing that he would not have the child do. It is the way one has been brought up that has led many and many a man to a drunkard's end.

What shall we do to save our young men from ruin and our daughters from the misery and degradation of drunkard's wives? This question nearly runs us crazy, so often has every effort failed. Two things we would say do: First-Let every one ponder well and heed the suggestions given in the above thoughts. Secondly—The only really successful means ever found to arrest the power and progress of this demon of destruction lies in the law. Prohibition has put a check upon the evil. We must put the bowl out of the way of its victim. We may save the bird from the jaws of the serpent if we kill the snake before the power of his charm has become too great. So if the votaries of intemperance will not turn from the destroyer, we must remove the destroyer itself. Wherever prohibition has gone into effect, it has not wholly removed the evil or stopped every drinker, but it has greatly abated the use of liquor and consequent crime. Whole townships, counties and States are bearing testimony to this fact. In some instances the prime movers in the work have been the ring leaders in the vice themselves. The christian churches are and ought to be the most powerful temperance societies in the world, and upon them rests the great duty of pushing the prohibition movement forward.

J. H. Weatherly, Chairman.

3. The report on Documents was read and adopted: REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your committee, beg leave to report: That Ruhama and Springville churches both ask for the sitting of the next meeting of the Association. We recommend that the Clerk be instructed to procure a suitable book in which the proceedings of the Association can be recorded; and that he be requested to get up a file of the Minutes as far back as he can conveniently, and record the proceedings of them in the book; also the proceedings of this meeting, and that the book be kept for the record of future meetings. We further recommend the appointment of a committee on Church Improvements, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the condition of our church buildings, and their appliances, and to encourage our churches to improve their houses of worship and provide themselves with the necessary appliances; and report the next meeting of the Association the present condition and value of all such property together with all improvements that have been added during the year. Respectfully submitted.

T. V. B. Moor, Chairman.

4. The committee on Nominations reported as follows: That the next session of the Association be held with the Ruhama Church, to commence on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1885. That Rev. D. I. Purser preach the Introductory Sermon; Rev. E. B. Waldrop, alternate.

5. Appointed standing committees:

Foreign Missions—J. H. Weatherly, G. T. Green and M. G. Carter.

State Missions—T. V. B. Moor, J. M. Huey and R. K. Vann.

Temperance—R. W. Beck, J. M. Presley, and W. K. Vann.

Home Missions—R. H. Sterrett, H. Sparks and Williamson Franklin.

Sabbath Schools—R. J. Waldrop, D. H. Vann and D. N. Talley.

Church Improvements—D. I. Purser, T. V. B. Moor and L. Nicholson.

- 6. On motion, it was agreed that three of the committee appointed as Board of Directors, shall constitute a quorum.
- 7. On motion of Brother Moor, the order of business used at this session, be printed in the Minutes.
 - 8. The following resolution was passed:

Resolved—That this body return its gratitude to this church and community for the very kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained this body during its meeting.

- 9. Brother G. T. Green was appointed Assistant Treasurer of the Association.
- 10. The business of the session being completed, the Moderator requested the audience to rise and sing that grand old hymn,

"How firm a foundation," etc.

during which the parting hand was taken, and the closing prayer was offered by D. I. Purser.

A. J. Waldrop, Moderator.

E. B. Waldrop, Clerk.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Let'er	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Dead	Total Membership
Birmingham	D. I. Purser	15	35	15	3		6	350
Bethany	R. W. Inzer	5	1	3	1		2	56
Canaan	G. T. Lee	4		5		1		- 55
Cahaba	A. J. Waldrop	8	7	43	2		4	-130
Central	A. J. Waldrop		6	4			1	43
Enou	G. A. Chunn	12	7 3	1				63
Hopewell	G. A. Chunn	5	3	2	1		3	55
New Prospect		5	65	6				70
Pleasant Ridge			5	2			1	92
Rock Creek				4		1	2	53
Ruhama			15	2	2		1	191
Salem	A. J. Waldrop		5	20				91
Sulphur Springs				1	1			30
Springville				4			3	91
Williamsburg	E. B. Waldrop		2	9	1			15
	Totals	80	151	112	11	2	28	1385

TREASURER'S REPORT. R. H. Sterrett, Treasurer, in account with Canaan Baptist Association,

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1884:				
To amount recieved from George G. Miles, former Treast	ırer	, as	follov	vs:
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